2876 DFW



Express Mail Label No. EV511845829US Attorney Docket No. 283-325

<u>PATENT</u>

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail addressed to Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 2, 2005. Express Mail Label No. EV511845829US.

Barbara J. Saliman

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

09/858,163

Confirmation No.:

3286

Applicant:

Michael Ehrhart

Filed:

May 15, 2001

Art Unit:

2876

Examiner:

Kimberly D. Nguyen

Docket No.:

283-325

Customer No.:

20874

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 2, 2004, please amend the above identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

03/02/2005 KDUNCAN 00000005 500289 09858463 Sale Ref: 00000005 DAW: 500289 09858463

01 FC:1202 02 FC:1201 500.00 DA 200.00 DA U. S. Patent Application No. 09/858,163 Amendment Dated February 2, 2005 Reply to Office Action Dated November 2, 2004

In order to aid the applicant in his effort to comply fully with his duty to disclose material information to the Office, the applicant requests that if an Examiner in one of the applications 09/858,163 or 10/143,158 cites an additional prior art reference, that the reference be made of record in the remaining application, and considered by the Examiner of the remaining application. Applicant is desirous of avoiding the situation where additional art references or bases for rejections are presented in a first of the above applications after close of prosecution on the merits in a second of the above applications.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant believes all of the claims of the present application to be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests reconsideration and passage to allowance of the application.

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call applicant's representative at the phone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

Date: February 2, 2005

Customer No. 20874

George S. Blasiak

Registration No. 37,283

WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

101 South Salina Street

Suite 400

Syracuse, NY 13202

315-425-9000

315-425-9114 (FAX)

GSB/bs